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And there came a day, a day unlike any other, when Earth's Mightiest Heroes found themselves united against a common threat! On that day, the Avengers were born, to fight the foes no single super hero could withstand!

THE NEW AVENGERS

The Avengers are on the run! Until they can be sure who's on their side, Spider-Man, Captain America, Luke Cage, Ronin, Mockingbird, Spider-Woman and Ms. Marvel are using Captain America's hideout in Brooklyn as a safe-house. Collectively they try to keep the values of the Avengers name alive even though they're living on the wrong side of the law.

Norman Osborn is the new political and media darling and director of H.A.M.M.E.R., the national peacekeeping task force, which includes his own team of Avengers.

The Hood has been running a syndicate of powerful criminals but has disappeared since losing his powers. Loki, the god of mischief, has offered The Hood a way to reclaim his power.

But The Hood's syndicate has decided to strike out on their own. They have tech that can and has defeated the Avengers by taking their powers away…

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TIMES SQUARE.

AGH! DAMN!

MY HEART!

OKAY. OKAY.

THE AVENGERS ARE DOWN. I'M THE ONLY ONE STANDING.

THIS GUY HAS TO HAVE SOMETHING-- SOME KIND OF POWER BOMB OR POWER DRAINER.

THESE GUYS WITH THEIR GADGETS... HATE 'EM. FIGHT LIKE A *MAN.*

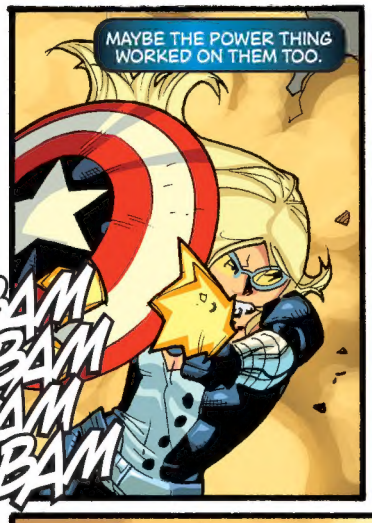
BUT HE DID SUCKER US RIGHT INTO THIS. YOU GOT TO GIVE HIM THAT...

OKAY, BOBBI, TIME TO REINTRODUCE THE WORLD TO MOCKINGBIRD AND ALL HER KICKASSERY...

I GUESS FUNBUNS HERE THOUGHT HE'D KNOCK US ALL DOWN WITH HIS LITTLE DOODAD.
WELL, GUESS WHAT...
OAW!
EWHACK
FSHHAAMMM
FSSAHHAAA
DAMN IT!
I MAY NOT HAVE THE CLAWS AND THE WEBS...
SHAMMM
BUT I KNOW A THING OR TWO ABOUT A THING OR TWO.
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT... RUN LIKE A BITCH.
NNNRR!
CAP, CAN YOU GET UP?!
MY ARM!
BAM BAM BAM BAM
@#$%, THAT'S RIGHT...
BUCKY CAP HAS A PROSTHETIC METAL ARM.
LEAST HE HAS A GUN.
DAMN NICE GUN. WHAT IS THIS, A SOUPED-UP LUGER?

AAGGH!
SPAC
SMACK
WOOF. THIS SHIELD IS A LOT HEAVIER THAN IT LOOKS.
FEELS GOOD, THOUGH. I GET TO BE CAPTAIN AMERICA FOR THE DAY.
COME ON, AVENGERS. GET UP. GET IT TOGETHER. FIGHT PAST IT.
WOW.
WHY CAN'T CLINT GET UP? HIS POWERS ARE LIKE MINE. MORE SKILL THAN PIZZAZZ.
MAYBE THIS'LL DO IT.
NO!
OH REALLY, THIS BOTHERS YOU? I'M OH-SO-SORRY.
DID THAT DO IT? DID THAT GIVE EVERYONE THEIR POWERS BACK OR--?
HEY, CAROL!
GUYS?!
DAMN. I HOPE IT'S NOT PERMANENT. I HOPE IT DOESN'T--
WHICH ONE IS THAT?
NEVER SEEN HER BEFORE IN MY LIFE...
OH MAN...

SHE KINDA LOOKS FAMILIAR.
THE POWER DRAINER DIDN'T WORK ON HER SO SHE CAN'T BE ALL THAT.
UGH! THE WRECKING CREW. THAT'S A LITTLE OUT OF MY LEAGUE.
THAT'S LIKE THOR AND HERCULES-LEVEL BAD GUYS.


MAYBE THE POWER THING WORKED ON THEM TOO.
BAM BAM BAM BAM

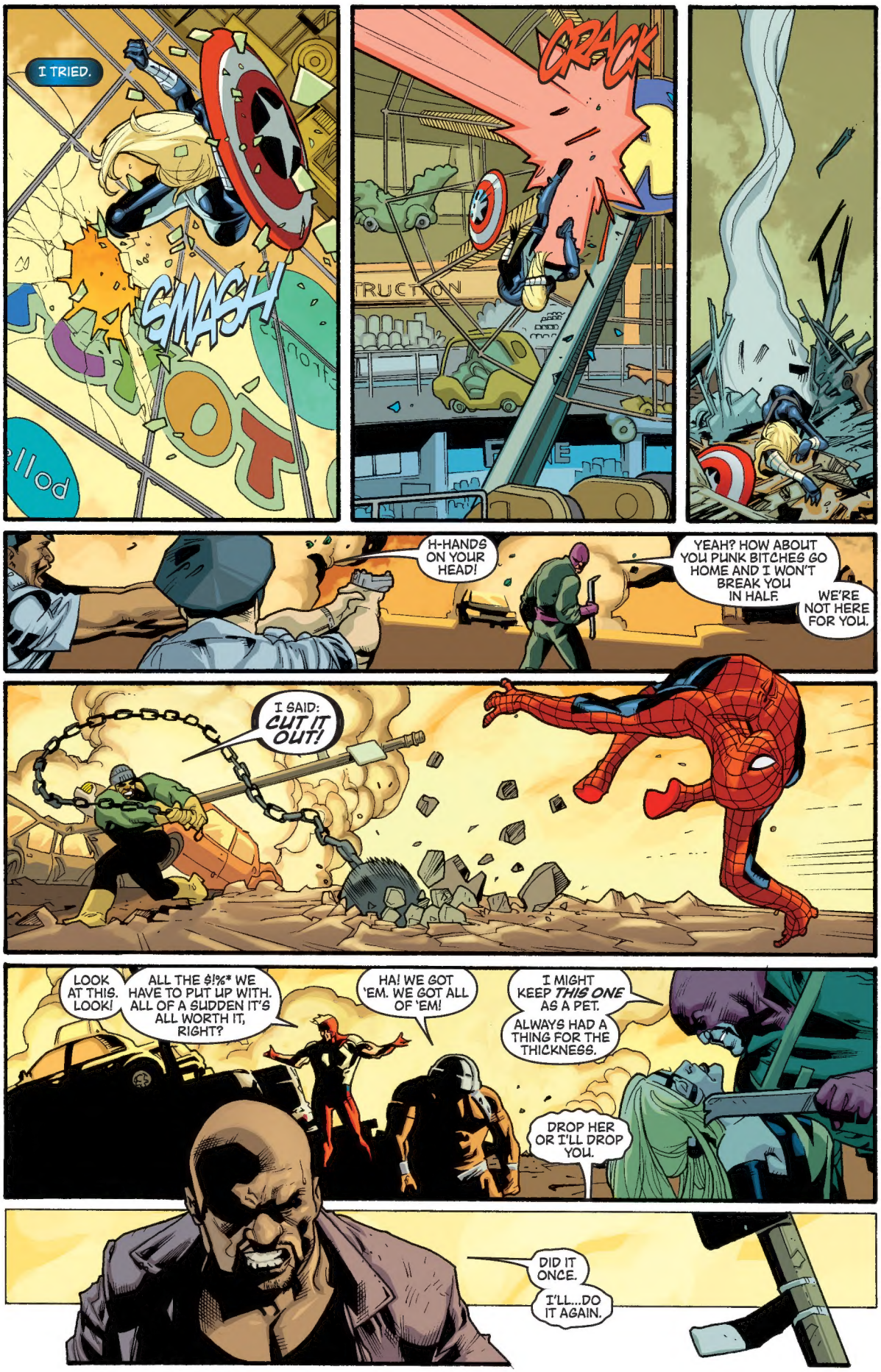
WHAT IS THAT? A LUGER?
YEAH, DIDN'T THINK SO.
I CALL THE SHIELD.

OH, MAN.
GREAT.
OKAY, OKAY...
FIGHT AIN'T OVER TILL THE FIGHT IS WON.

WHERE DID I HEAR THAT? IS THAT FROM A MOVIE?

BOBBI!
I HATE THAT CLINT'S SO PROTECTIVE OF ME.
I HATE THAT SINCE WE REUNITED HE'S SO DAMN WORRIED ABOUT ME...

I UNDERSTAND IT, BUT I WISH HE--
COME ON!
=OOF!=
UH... WHAT JUST HAPPENED?
WHAT THE @##$?
WEBBING.
WELL, THAT'S...ALL I GOT.
VERY COOL.
THWAP
THWAP
PAIN IN THE ASS.
CLANG
SORRY, GUYS...


I TRIED.
SMASH
CRACK
H-HANDS ON YOUR HEAD!
YEAH? HOW ABOUT YOU PUNK BITCHES GO HOME AND I WON'T BREAK YOU IN HALF.
WE'RE NOT HERE FOR YOU.
I SAID: CUT IT OUT!
LOOK AT THIS. LOOK!
ALL THE $!%* WE HAVE TO PUT UP WITH. ALL OF A SUDDEN IT'S ALL WORTH IT, RIGHT?
HA! WE GOT 'EM. WE GOT ALL OF 'EM!
I MIGHT KEEP *THIS ONE* AS A PET.
ALWAYS HAD A THING FOR THE THICKNESS.
DROP HER OR I'LL DROP YOU.
DID IT ONCE.
I'LL...DO IT AGAIN.

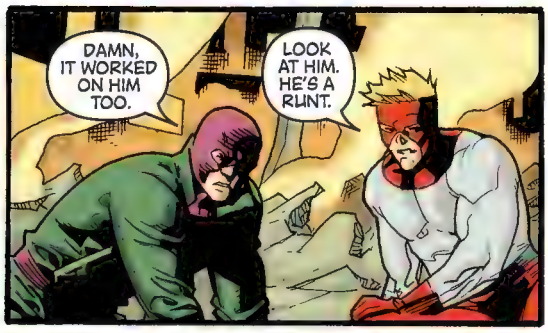
AAAWWW, LOOK AT HIM. CAGE'S PRETENDING TO BE ALL ROUGH. IT'S SO CUTE.
HEY, WRECKS...DIDN'T CAGE TAKE YOUR CROWBAR?
THAT'S RIGHT.
HEY, WHAT'S THE MATTER THERE, CAGE? YOU HAVIN' CHEST PAINS?
THIS IS UNIT 9! WE HAVE A 445.
WE NEED ALL AVAILABLE UNITS. I REPEAT--
I GOT THE SHOT. I CAN TAKE THE SHOT!
GUNFIRE IS NOT WORKING. STAND DOWN.
BOOM
THESE GUYS WON'T SHUT UP!
WELL, NOW THEY WILL.

DOES IT HURT THERE?
AGRGH!!
OR THERE?!
CRACK
STOP IT!
NO TURNS
WHACK
WHACK
FAK
NGAH!
CRACK
THAT WAS CUTE.

HILARIOUS.
WHERE WAS I?
OH YEAH, DOES THIS HURT?
NYARGH!
ARK
JEEZ! HOW LONG IS THIS GOING TO TAKE?
MISTER BIG SHOT DOESN'T SEE THAT HIS FRONT YARD IS ON FIRE?
NNNNN!
YOU KNOW, WE WEREN'T EVEN AIMING FOR YOU GUYS...
YOU'RE THE ICING.
OH NO.
UH... GUYS?
HERE WE GO!

I AM THE SENTRY.
WHAT ARE YOU PEOPLE--?
WHAT-- UH--

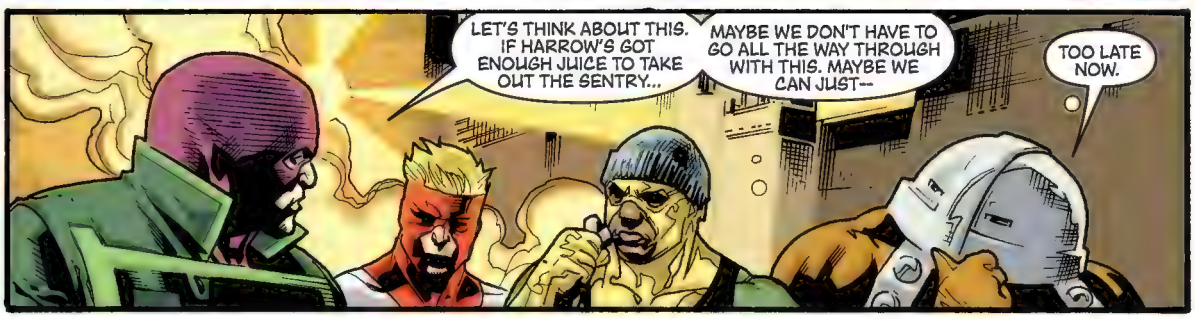
AGH!


DAMN, IT WORKED ON HIM TOO.
LOOK AT HIM. HE'S A RUNT.

OH MY GOD... HOW DID--HOW DID I GET HERE?
UH...HELP.
HELLO?

JEEZ. LOOK AT HIM.
I DIDN'T THINK THIS THING WOULD TAKE HIM OUT TOO.

PLEASE. LET'S JUST-- LET'S JUST ALL CALM DOWN.
JUST TELL ME WHERE I AM...


LET'S THINK ABOUT THIS. IF HARROW'S GOT ENOUGH JUICE TO TAKE OUT THE SENTRY...
MAYBE WE DON'T HAVE TO GO ALL THE WAY THROUGH WITH THIS. MAYBE WE CAN JUST--
TOO LATE NOW.

MY NAME IS NORMAN OSBORN. YOU'RE ALL UNDER ARREST.

BUT I'M HOPING YOU WERE SMART ENOUGH TO FIGURE THAT OUT.

FALL BACK, AVENGERS.

WELL, DAMN... THEY TOOK OUT CAPTAIN CRAZYGLUE.

YES. THAT MEANS YOU FALL BACK, HAWKEYE.

WHY?

BECAUSE YOU'RE NOT STUPID.

HEY, OSBORN.

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU MORONS DOING?

TRYING TO GET YOUR ATTENTION.

WELL, YOU GOT IT.

UNIDENTIFIED ENVIRONMENTAL BIORHYTHM DETECTED. DANGER LEVEL: HIGH.

HOW DID YOU JUST DO WHAT YOU JUST DID?

WRIG

PLEASE HOLD.

WHAT THE HELL?

SECURITY BREACH.

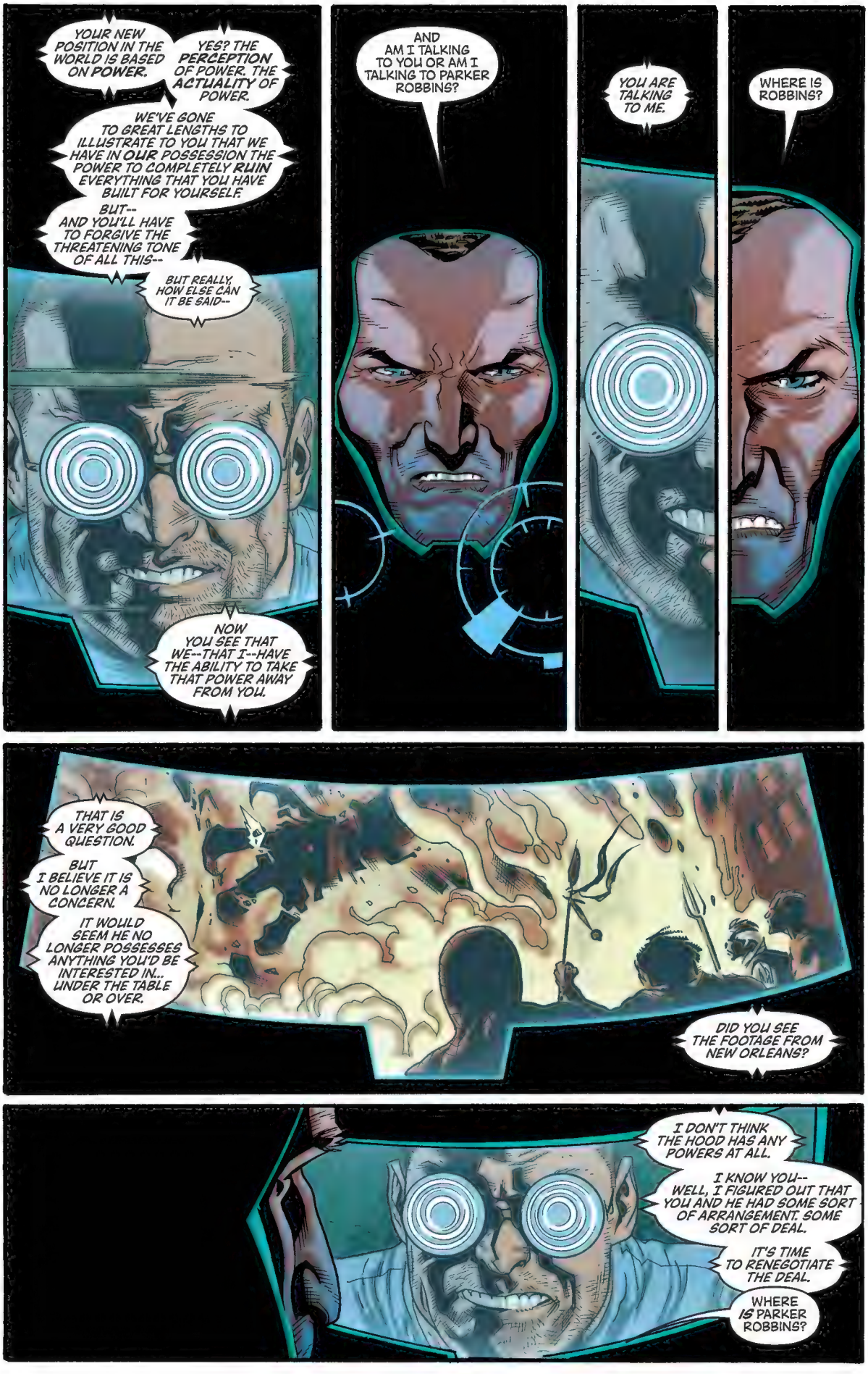
SECUR-- LOCK IT DOWN.

SECURITY BREACH.

WHAT KIND OF--

HELLO, MISTER OSBORN..

MY NAME IS DOCTOR JONAS HARROW.
I'M AN ASSOCIATE OF PARKER ROBBINS. I BELIEVE YOU KNEW HIM AS THE HOOD.
WHAT IS GOING ON HERE? WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?
I ALWAYS ADMIRED YOU FROM AFAR.
BUT THIS-- THE MOVES YOU'VE MADE LATELY--
DIGGING YOURSELF OUT OF THE HOLE THAT WAS YOUR LIFE AS THE GREEN GOBLIN...
...TO REINVENT YOURSELF SO COMPLETELY.
WELL, IT GIVES ME HOPE. IT GIVES US ALL HOPE REALLY...
WHAT'S GOING ON?
HELLO? OSBORN?
WAIT FOR IT.
I ALWAYS FANTASIZED ABOUT BEING ABLE TO DO WHAT YOU'VE DONE.
TO SKIP OVER THE SO-CALLED REHABILITATION AND GET TO THE NEXT PHASE IN LIFE.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? WHAT IS THIS?
I'M EXPLAINING TO YOU.


YOUR NEW POSITION IN THE WORLD IS BASED ON POWER.
YES? THE PERCEPTION OF POWER. THE ACTUALITY OF POWER.
WE'VE GONE TO GREAT LENGTHS TO ILLUSTRATE TO YOU THAT WE HAVE IN OUR POSSESSION THE POWER TO COMPLETELY RUIN EVERYTHING THAT YOU HAVE BUILT FOR YOURSELF.
BUT-- AND YOU'LL HAVE TO FORGIVE THE THREATENING TONE OF ALL THIS--
BUT REALLY, HOW ELSE CAN IT BE SAID--
NOW YOU SEE THAT WE--THAT I--HAVE THE ABILITY TO TAKE THAT POWER AWAY FROM YOU.
AND AM I TALKING TO YOU OR AM I TALKING TO PARKER ROBBINS?
YOU ARE TALKING TO ME.
WHERE IS ROBBINS?
THAT IS A VERY GOOD QUESTION.
BUT I BELIEVE IT IS NO LONGER A CONCERN.
IT WOULD SEEM HE NO LONGER POSSESSES ANYTHING YOU'D BE INTERESTED IN... UNDER THE TABLE OR OVER.
DID YOU SEE THE FOOTAGE FROM NEW ORLEANS?
I DON'T THINK THE HOOD HAS ANY POWERS AT ALL.
I KNOW YOU-- WELL, I FIGURED OUT THAT YOU AND HE HAD SOME SORT OF ARRANGEMENT. SOME SORT OF DEAL.
IT'S TIME TO RENEGOTIATE THE DEAL.
WHERE IS PARKER ROBBINS?

BAYAMO, CUBA.

THE HELL ARE WE, LOKI?

YOU CALL IT CUBA.

UGH. IT SMELLS.

I FIND THIS ENTIRE REALM HAS AN ODD ODOR.

WHY ARE WE IN CUBA?

FOLLOW ME.

IS THIS WHERE YOU TURN THE SCREWS ON US, LOKI? IS THIS WHERE IT ALL GOES DOWN?

MISS FROST, I UNDERSTAND YOUR FONDNESS FOR OUR BOY PARKER HERE AND I AGREED TO ALLOW YOU TO QUEST WITH US.

BUT I MUST REMIND YOU, I NEVER ACTUALLY INVITED YOU.

IF YOU'RE UNCOMFORTABLE. YOU MAY FEEL FREE TO LEAVE.

CALM DOWN, WHITNEY. I WANT TO DO THIS.

THE SOLUTION TO ALL YOUR PROBLEMS IS RIGHT IN THERE.

WE'RE GOING TO PRAY?

COME.

OKAY. NOW WHAT?

I FEEL THEY ARE NEAR.

WHAT?

JUST AHEAD.

PLEASE, JUST GET ME TO IT.

IN THERE.

WHO'S THE DEAD GUY?

I DO NOT KNOW.

HOW'D HE DIE?

IT LOOKS LIKE HE DIED PROTECTING IT.

OR DIED @#$ WITH IT.

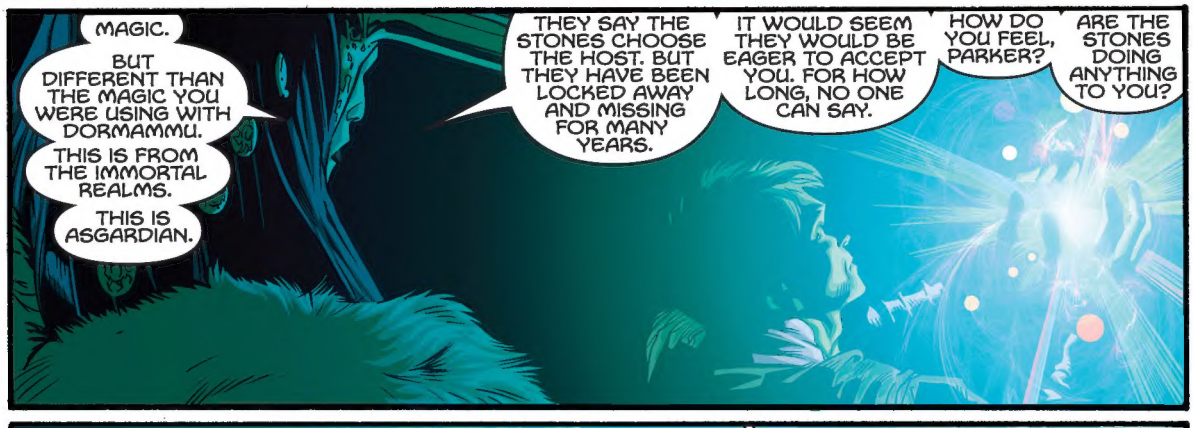
YOU'RE A VERY SPIRITED MORTAL.

I'M GOING TO OPEN IT.

THERE. JUST AS I PROMISED.

THE QUEST IS OVER.

THE STONES OF NORN.
ASGARDIAN IN ORIGIN, BUT NOW THAT ASGARD IS HERE ON MIDGARD...SOME SUCH ITEMS OF LEGEND HAVE SCATTERED ACROSS THE REALM.
AND NOW THEY ARE YOURS.
I HAVE USED THEM MYSELF, IN MY YOUNGER YEARS, AND THEY WILL RESTORE YOUR POWERS, PARKER.
THEY WILL RESTORE YOUR HEALTH.
YOUR BEST DAYS JUST MAY BE AHEAD OF YOU.
HOW DO THEY WORK?
WHAT YOU IMAGINE YOURSELF TO BE--THE STONES WILL SEE IT BE TRUE.
THEY GRANT THE BEARER'S WISH OF SELF.
BUT HOW?

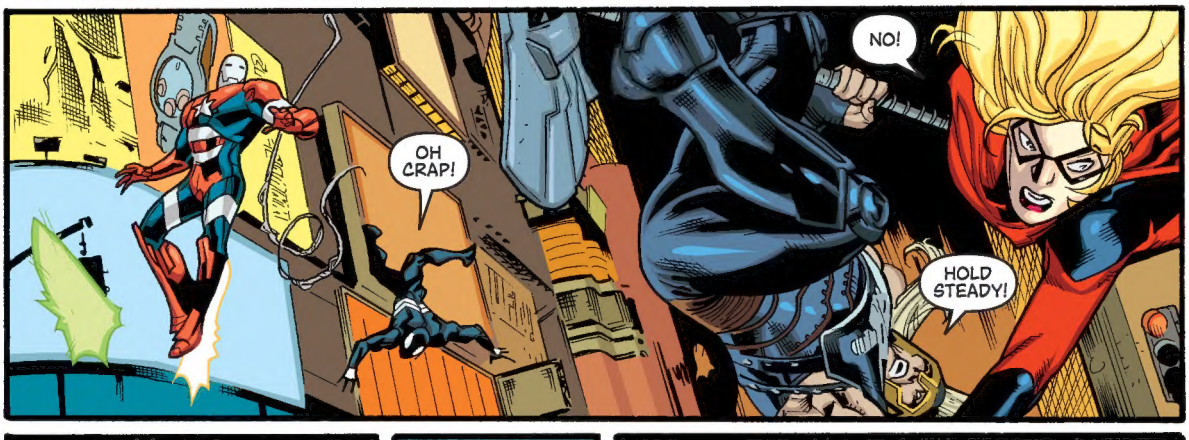

MAGIC.
BUT DIFFERENT THAN THE MAGIC YOU WERE USING WITH DORMAMMU.
THIS IS FROM THE IMMORTAL REALMS.
THIS IS ASGARDIAN.
THEY SAY THE STONES CHOOSE THE HOST. BUT THEY HAVE BEEN LOCKED AWAY AND MISSING FOR MANY YEARS.
IT WOULD SEEM THEY WOULD BE EAGER TO ACCEPT YOU. FOR HOW LONG, NO ONE CAN SAY.
HOW DO YOU FEEL, PARKER?
ARE THE STONES DOING ANYTHING TO YOU?

DO YOU FEEL ANYTHING?

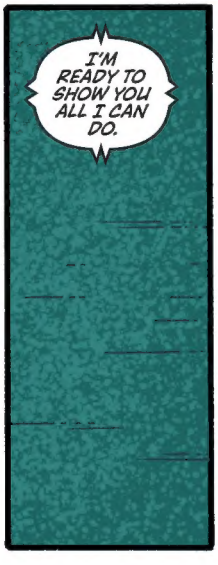
OSBORN?
HOLD ON.
ARES?
HOLD STEADY.
THIS IS WEIRD.

WHAT I AM TELLING YOU IS THAT PARKER ROBBINS IS OUT OF THE PICTURE.
WHAT I AM SHOWING YOU IS THAT WE ARE A FORCE TO BE RECKONED WITH AND WILLING TO WORK WITH YOU FOR MUTUAL SATISFACTION.
WHAT YOU NOW KNOW IS THAT I HAVE TECHNOLOGY THAT CAN AND HAS DEFEATED YOU AND MADE YOU POWERLESS WHILE KEEPING MY MEN POWERED AND IN CONTROL.
TECH THAT YOU CAN HAVE. TECH THAT COULD CHANGE THE WORLD.
IF YOU ARE WILLING TO TRANSFER YOUR DEAL WITH PARKER ROBBINS TO US, WE WILL GIVE YOU THIS TECH AS A BONUS.

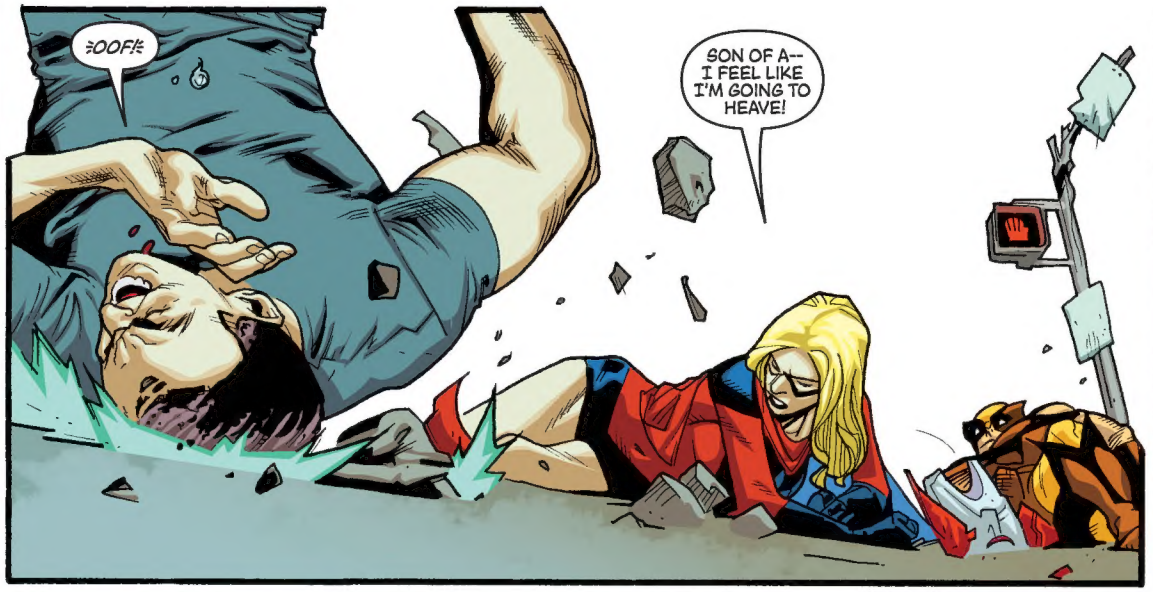
AND YOU COULDN'T JUST MAKE AN APPOINTMENT?
A MAN LIKE YOU-- YOU NEEDED A DISPLAY.
WELL, DOCTOR, CALL ME A SKEPTIC BUT YOU AND YOUR TEAM OF TEN-TIME LOSERS CAN TAKE YOUR FANTASY DEAL AND YOU CAN--
HOLD THAT THOUGHT.


OH CRAP!
NO!
HOLD STEADY!

I'VE BEEN HACKING INTO DEFENSE SYSTEMS SINCE I WAS IN GRAMMAR SCHOOL.


I'M READY TO SHOW YOU ALL I CAN DO.

ARMOR?


OOF!
SON OF A-- I FEEL LIKE I'M GOING TO HEAVE!

SO, YEAH, HE WASN'T BLUFFING...
TO BE CONTINUED...